AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the present title with the following rewritten title:

CLAMP MECHANISM AND INFORMATION REPRODUCING ~~MECHANISM~~ APPARATUS USING SAME

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 1 and 2 with the following amended paragraph:

However, the foregoing conventional clamp mechanism was confronted with a difficulty as follows. Since the blade spring 4 was operated to forcibly bias the disk in the horizontal direction for the alignment, it was necessary to arrange the blade spring 4 besides the three ~~shuck~~chuck claws 3 to securely support the disk. Thus, both of the number of parts necessary for this clamp mechanism 1 and the number of assembling steps become large, while the clamp mechanism 1 was structured in a complicated way.

Please replace paragraph beginning at page 3, line 5, with the following amended paragraph:

As another aspect ~~antother asepect~~ of the present invention ~~inventioin~~, there ~~theres~~ is ~~als o~~ also provided an information reproducing mechanism comprising: a turntable having a loading plane on which an information recording medium is allowed to be loaded; and a clamp mechanism for clamping and unclamping the information recording medium loaded on the loading plane of the turntable. The clamp mechanism comprises a plurality of holders each holding the information recording medium on the turntable; and a driving device driving the holders in both of a holding direction along which the information recording medium is held and

an un-holding direction along which the information recording medium is released from being held. In this configuration, at least one of the plurality of holders is configured to press, in a direction parallel to the loading plane, the information recording medium loaded on the turntable.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 22, with the following amended paragraph:

~~Refereeing~~Referring to the accompanying drawings, a preferred embodiment of the present invention will now be described. In the following, a disk reproducing apparatus employed as an information reproducing apparatus of the present invention will be described. The disk reproducing apparatus, which adopts therein a clamp mechanism according to the present invention, is configured to reproduce bits of information recorded on information recording mediums such as CDs and DVDs (hereafter simply referred to as disks).

Please replace the paragraph, beginning at page 16, line 2, with the following amended paragraph:

In addition, the ~~first~~ second type of chuck claw 37 has the two claw pieces 61 (tip portions) that individually press the disk 8 for primarily the alignment. The central position between the two claw pieces 61 is set to be angularly equal to both of the two chuck claws 36. A combination of ~~t his~~this angularly three-divided, but balanced arrangement as well as the two-claw-piece structure provides a smooth and steady alignment operation.